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Message Text

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14
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 IO-13 /091 W
---------- 024902
R 151239Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6403
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 11183

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, AG, MO, TS, UR, MR, SS
SUBJECT: SOVIET VIEWS ON SAHARA

1. AT POL COUNSELORS' MEETING JULY 15, ITALIAN COUNSELOR MIGLIORINI REPORTED THAT IN RECENT CONVERSATION SOVIET MFA FIRST AFRICAN DEPARTMENT MINISTER-COUNSELOR AGAPOV HAD TAKEN THE FOLLOWING LINE ON THE SAHARA QUESTION. THE SOVIETS ARE STILL WORRYING ABOUT IT, AND (STILL BELIEVE THE LOCAL POPULATIONS SHOULD DETERMINE THEIR OWN DESTINY, BUT ARE QUITE FLEXIBLE ABOUT HOW SELF-DETERMINATION SHOULD TAKE PLACE. SELF-DETERMINATION WAS ONE THING UNDER COLONIALISM, BUT SINCE COLONIALISM IS NO LONGER A FACTOR IN THE SAHARA, IT IS POSSIBLE TO BE MORE FLEXIBLE ABOUT SOLUTIONS. ONE WHICH MIGHT BE POSSIBLE WOULD INVOLVE MOROCCAN CONCESSIONS (UNSPECIFIED) TO THE ALGERIANS. HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO SOVIET INFORMATION, ALL SIDES ARE PRESENTLY MAINTAINING THEIR POSITIONS.

2. COMMENT. REPORT IS INTERESTING AS SIGN THAT SOVIETS MAY BE SEEKING SOME WAY TO HELP ALGERIANS OUT OF THEIR ISOLATION ON SAHARA ISSUE.
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MATLOCK

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NNN

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
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